

The regular monthly meeting of the Altoona Water Authority Board of Directors was held on Thursday, May 18, 2017 in the board room at the Administrative Office. Chairman Schirf called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance:

Mr. Schirf, Mr. Ake, Mr. Neugebauer, Mrs. Marcinko & Mr. Strohm were present, constituting a quorum in accordance with AWA Bylaws. All AWA Board of Directors meetings are conducted in accordance with the PA Sunshine Laws. AWA Staff representatives attending were, Mark Perry, Mike Sinisi, Gina DeRubeis, Ron Becher and Renée Wyandt

Public Comment:

None

Approval of the Minutes:

Mrs. Marcinko made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2017 meeting. Mr. Ake seconded the motion. Mr. Schirf called the question. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Unfinished Business:

1. Bellwood Reservoir– the Authority is awaiting approval from DEP on the report submitted for the test borings and the geotechnical information.
2. Bellwood Water Treatment Plant Design Upgrades – there are two membrane filtration systems up and running with the one doing a little better than the other. Another ozone system is also being reviewed to replace the old system. There was a planning consultation with PennVEST on May 23, 2017. The permits are not expected until 2018 therefore the Authority will not be able to apply for PennVEST financing for this project until they are received.

The cleaning & lining of the sewer system and wastewater treatment plant sludge were also discussed at this PennVEST meeting. It is hopeful the Authority will be able to apply this year for PennVEST financing for sewer projects.

3. 31st Street Maintenance Storage Yard Building – this project is approximately 99% complete. The final inspection should be done next week.
4. Vactor Jetter Truck – the current jetter truck is a 1999 and although it is in working condition it is subpar and not reliable. This is a big ticket item that was not budgeted; however there are several budgeted projects that have changed according to their scope of work and one that we're hopeful to seek funding for. The projects include sewer lining work for the amount of \$300,000.00. CFA funding for the lining work was denied earlier this year however the Authority will apply for a 2nd round of CFA funding or apply for PennVEST funding/grant to finance this project.

The Westerly Wastewater Treatment Plant Clarifier floor has a leveling masonry grout layer that was lifting in areas and was slated for total replacement by an outside contractor. After a detailed evaluation by the Authority's in-house engineer it was determined that only the identified un-bonded areas of the floor need removed and replaced. The smaller scale project allowed for us to utilize in-house labor to complete this work, freeing up significant dollars that could be used toward the Jetter truck.

Again money was budgeted for total roof replacements for both the Easterly & Westerly facilities. Prior to bidding the project one roofer recommended parameter repairs at the stress sites, instead of total replacement, which would extend the life of the roofs for quite some time. This also generated significant savings that could be utilized toward the Jetter truck.

Staff evaluated the Gap Vac and the Vactor Jetter trucks. Demonstrations of both trucks were presented to Authority Staff. This truck will be used 200 days a year out of 230 work days on a variety of jobs. It was decided the Vactor Jetter truck would better serve the needs of the Authority. After further discussion staff made the recommendation to purchase the Vactor Jetter truck.

Mrs. Marcinko noted the lining projects will still need completed and if PennVEST funding is approved the money will still need to be repaid. She agreed that by changing the scope of work within the projects it could save money.

5. Pretreatment Regulations – Mr. Balliet explained the local limits under the 2017 pretreatment program and the changes EPA wants made. This program regulates the discharges received from industrial commercial customers. There were twenty-five (25) pretreatment parameters in the local limits. During an audit that was done last year by EPA it was found that five (5) parameters also have surcharges. EPA wants to exclude those five (5) parameters from the local limits. Those parameters should only be on the surcharge list. A resolution also needs to be passed adding ammonia nitrogen to the surcharge list.

Requisition Approval:

Mr. Schirf asked Mrs. DeRubeis for the Financial Report and the Requisitions/Authorizations. Mrs. DeRubeis gave her report and then asked for approval of the following requisitions.

Requisitions #67 Water Division Construction Fund totaling – \$25,728.00

Requisition #2015-28 Water Division Capital Project Fund totaling - \$49,346.63

Mrs. Marcinko made a motion to approve the requisitions. Mr. Neugebauer seconded the motion. Mr. Schirf called the question. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

New Business:

1. License Agreement between GAJE Downtown Development, LP – the Wingate located at 901 Chestnut Avenue has asked for additional parking at the Administrative Office Building during off hours when needed. A License Agreement was drawn up that could be revoked at any time.

After some discussion it was decided to pull this for further study.

2. FBG Developer's Agreement – this is another phase to the Fox Hollow development. The extension will serve approximately six (6) lots on Stirrup Circle and include one (1) fire hydrant. New language was introduced to this Developer's Agreement that will carry forward to all future Developer's Agreements.
3. Resolution # 17-05-850 has been pulled for further study.
4. Resolution # 17-05-851 to authorize the Chairman or Vice-Chairman and the Secretary or Assistant Secretary to execute the Developer's Agreement between FBG Development Associates and the AWA

Mr. Neugebauer made a motion to approve Resolution # 17-05-851. Mr. Ake seconded the motion. Mr. Schirf called the question. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

5. Resolution #17-05-852 to amend the Pretreatment Regulations

Mrs. Marcinko made a motion to approve Resolution # 17-05-852. Mr. Strohm seconded the motion. Mr. Schirf called the question. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

6. Resolution #17-05-853 to approve the purchase of a Vactor Jetter Truck for the price of \$450,318.00.

Mrs. Marcinko made a motion to approve Resolution # 17-05-853. Mr. Ake seconded the motion. Mr. Schirf called the question. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

7. Resolution #17-05-854 that the Rates, Rules & Regulations governing local limits for certain industrial and commercial discharges into the Sewer System be amended to add a surcharge for ammonia nitrogen in amounts greater than 35mg/L at the rate of \$.30/lb.

Mr. Neugebauer made a motion to approve Resolution # 17-05-854. Mrs. Marcinko seconded to motion. Mr. Schirf called the question. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

Other Business:

Mr. Balliet discussed a new process to convert the sludge from the Easterly and Westerly plants into Class A biosolids. To produce Class A biosolids the sludge would be blown dry which would not only reduce the amount of sludge produced but would also become a cost savings to the Authority. The equipment would only be installed at the Westerly facility and would be able to handle the sludge from both plants. To install the equipment and renovate the plant to get this project up and running would cost approximately \$2,500,000.00. This process would pay for itself in a very short period of time.

Media Questions

The board and staff addressed questions from Bill Kibler from the Altoona Mirror.

Executive Session:

An executive session was called at 10:06 for legal issues.

Adjournment:

No further business was brought before the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 10:26 a.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 22, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room at the Administrative Office Building located at 900 Chestnut Avenue.



Secretary/Assistant Secretary

/klg